

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed March 22, 2004, has been received and its contents carefully noted. Filed concurrently herewith is a *Request for Two Month Extension of Time*, which extends the shortened statutory period for response to August 22, 2004. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicants note with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on May 30, 2000, October 4, 2000, September 26, 2001, March 13, 2002, and April 30, 2003.

The Applicants again note the partial consideration of the IDS filed on June 17, 1999, a partially initialed copy of which was included with the Official Action dated December 27, 1999. The following references were not considered by the Examiner: (1) C. Hayzelden et al., "*In Situ Transmission Electron Microscopy Studies of Silicide-Mediated Crystallization of Amorphous Silicon*" (3 pages); (2) A.V. Dvurechenskii et al., "*Transport Phenomena in Amorphous Silicon Doped by Ion Implantation of 3d Metals*," Akademikian Lavrentev Prospekt 13, 630090 Novosibirsk 90, USSR, pp. 635-640; and (3) R. Kakkad et al., "*Low Temperature Selective Crystallization of Amorphous Silicon*," *Journal of Non-Crystalline Solids*, 115, 1989, pp. 66-68.

In response to the Applicants' request in the *Amendment* filed June 11, 2003, the Examiner noted in the Official Action dated August 20, 2003, that copies of the Hayzelden and Kakkad articles were not found in the parent application Serial No. 08/513,090. However, the Examiner has not indicated whether parent application Serial No. 08/938,310 was reviewed. Also, it is unclear from the record whether the Examiner has a copy of the Dvurechenskii article. It does not appear that the Dvurechenskii article has been considered.

The Official Action mailed August 20, 2003, asserts that the IDS fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2). The Applicants respectfully disagree. Please note that the present application is a Division (DIV) of copending applications Serial No. 08/513,090, filed August 9, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,731,613, and Serial No. 08/938,310, filed

September 26, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,959,313. Under 37 CFR 1.98(d)(1), the Applicants are permitted to rely on an earlier submission of prior art in a parent application if the "earlier application is properly identified in the information disclosure statement and is relied on for an earlier effective filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120." The '090 and '310 applications are properly identified in the IDS, in the *Utility Patent Application Transmittal*, and in amendment to the specification in the *Preliminary Amendment*, all of which were filed June 17, 1999. Therefore, the IDS filed June 17, 1999, fully complies with 37 CFR 1.98, and all the Hayzelden, Dvurechenskii and Kakkad articles cited therein should be considered.

In the *Request for Acknowledgment of Information Disclosure Statement* filed January 13, 2004, as a courtesy to the Examiner, the Applicants provided copies of the Hayzelden, Dvurechenskii and Kakkad articles, the IDS and Form PTO-1449 filed June 17, 1999, and the receipt cards noting the filing of the IDS and Form PTO-1449. It is again respectfully requested that the Hayzelden, Dvurechenskii and Kakkad articles cited in the IDS be considered by the Examiner and an initialed Form 1449 returned evidencing such consideration.

Also, the Applicants have not received acknowledgment of the IDSs filed on June 17, 2003, and April 6, 2004. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide an initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 evidencing consideration of the above-referenced IDSs.

A further IDS is submitted herewith and consideration of this IDS is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 8, 11-14, 16-19, 32-34, 38-43, 52, 53, 58-60, 65, 71-73, 75-81 and 100-121 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. Claims 76, 77 and 104-121 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 1-3, 8 and 78-81 have been amended to better recite the features of the present invention, to correct minor typographical and grammatical errors, and to overcome a rejection under § 112, and new claims 122-145 have been added to recite additional protection to which

the Applicants are entitled. Accordingly, claims 1-3, 8, 11-14, 16-19, 32-34, 38-43, 52, 53, 58-60, 65, 71-73, 75, 78-81, 100-103 and 122-145 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 1-3, 8, 122, 128, 134 and 140 are independent. The Applicants note with appreciation the indication of the allowability of claims 1-3, 8, 11-14, 16-19, 32-34, 38-43, 52, 53, 58-60, 65, 71-73, 75-81 and 100-103 (page 5, Paper No. 20040316). For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Paragraph 2 of the Official Action rejects claims 104-121 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. In response, claims 104-121 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; therefore, the rejection is moot. It is noted that the Applicants will file a new divisional application based on the present application, which includes the subject matter of canceled claims 104-121. In a *Response* to be filed with the new divisional application, the Applicants will respond to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Paragraph 3 of the Official Action rejects claims 1-3, 8, 11-14, 16-19, 32-34, 38-43, 52, 53, 58-60, 65, 71-73, 75-81 and 100-103 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In response, independent claims 1-3 and 8 have been amended to recite that the common source electrode is connected with source regions of the at least two transistors, and said common drain electrode is connected with drain regions of the at least two transistors, which is supported in the specification by at least Figures 2D and 3. Claims 1-3 and 8 have also been amended to recite that the channel-forming regions are formed on a same insulating surface, which is supported in the specification by at least Figure 2D. With respect to the amendment whereby "wiring" has been changed to "electrode," the Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments are merely clarifying in nature, and should not in any way affect the scope of protection afforded the claims for infringement purposes, particularly under the Doctrine of Equivalents. The Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are adequately described in the

specification and definite as amended. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 are in order and respectfully requested.

Paragraph 5 of the Official Action asserts that an interference cannot be initiated based upon claims 104-121. As noted above, claims 104-121 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In a *Response* to be filed with the new divisional application, the Applicants will respond to the above-referenced assertion in the Official Action.

New claims 122-145 have been added to recite additional protection to which the Applicants are entitled. For the reasons stated above and already of record, the Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 122-145 are in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric J. Robinson
Reg. No. 38,285

Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office, P.C.
PMB 955
21010 Southbank Street
Potomac Falls, Virginia 20165
(571) 434-6789